GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:561
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2004
JUTE MILLS IN WEST BENGAL
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Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of jute mills under NJMC and private sector in each state;

(b) the total number of sick and closed down jute mills out of them;

(c) the details of government plans to revive/reopen the sick and closed jute mills;

(d) the total number of workers affected by the sick and closer phenomenon of jute mills;

(e) whether there is any plan to rehabilitate the affected workers; and

(f) if so the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA)

(a) There are six jute mills under National Jute Manufactures Corporation (NJMC), five in West Bengal and one in Bihar. Two State Governments Mills are located in West Bengal and one Jute Mill in Public Sector are located each in the States of Assam, Orissa and Tripura. In the Private Sector, there are 54 mills in West Bengal, two in Bihar, seven in Andhra Pradesh, three in Uttar Pradesh and one in Chhattisgrah

(b) The total number of sick Jute Mills are 37. There are 19 jute mills which are closed since periods varying from two months to two years.

(c) As per existing statute, cases of sick unit are referred to BIFR, a quasi judicial body to examine the cases for rehabilitation of every sick unit. Thereafter, the revival scheme of the units are prepared / examined by the Operating Agency appointed by BIFR which is normally a financial institution. On receipt of the scheme, BIFR decides the cases or rehabilitation of the individual units.

(d) The total number of workers (permanent and others) engaged in the sick and close mill is around 1,31, 601 who have been affected by the sickness/ closer of the jute mills.

(e) & (f): Government of India has recognized and provided for safeguarding the interests of workers in certain textile units, which have been unviable and would close permanently. The Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme to provide interim relief to workmen rendered unemployed as a consequence to the permanent closure/liquidation of the textile units in the private sector, is also applicable to jute textile sector. Government of India offers attractive VRS benefits to the employees of Public Sector Undertakings, which fall under such category of sick mills.